

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the pending claims as indicated in the complete list of claims provided below.

1-49. (canceled)

50. (previously presented) A method of designing an integrated circuit (IC), said method comprising:
creating a representation of a shielding mesh in at least one layer of said IC, said shielding mesh having a first plurality of lines which are designed to provide a first reference voltage and having a second plurality of lines which are designed to provide a second reference voltage;
creating a representation of a plurality of signal lines routed through said shielding mesh, wherein said shielding mesh is gridless.
51. (previously presented) A method as in claim 50, wherein the method is performed at least in part by an EDA tool.
52. (previously presented) A method as in claim 51, wherein said method uses initial code written in an HDL.
53. (previously presented) A method of designing an integrated circuit (IC), said method comprising:
creating a representation of a shielding mesh in at least one layer of said IC, said shielding mesh having a first plurality of lines which are designed to provide a

first reference voltage and having a second plurality of lines which are designed to provide a second reference voltage; and creating a representation of a plurality of signal lines routed through said shielding mesh, wherein at least one of said signal lines is coupled to a signal line on another layer through at least two vias.

54. (previously presented) A method as in claim 53, wherein the method is performed at least in part by an EDA tool.
55. (previously presented) A method as in claim 54, wherein said method uses initial code written in an HDL.
56. (withdrawn) An integrated circuit (IC), comprising:
a shielding mesh having a first layer and a second layer, the first layer having a first conductor, the second layer having a second conductor; and
two vias each connecting from the first conductor of the first layer to the second conductor of the second layer.
57. (withdrawn) The integrated circuit of claim 56, wherein the first conductor and the second conductor are not parallel.
58. (withdrawn) The integrated circuit of claim 56, wherein the first conductor and the second conductor are in close proximity.

59. (withdrawn) The integrated circuit of claim 58, wherein a distance between the first conductor and the second conductor is smaller than an average spacing between parallel lines of the shielding mesh.
60. (previously presented) A method of designing an integrated circuit (IC), the method comprising:
generating a representation of a shielding mesh having a first layer and a second layer, the first layer including a first conductor, the second layer including a second conductor; and
generating a representation of two vias, each of the two vias connecting from the first conductor to the second conductor.
61. (previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the first conductor and the second conductor are not parallel.
62. (previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the first conductor and the second conductor are in close proximity.
63. (previously presented) The method of claim 62, wherein the method is performed at least in part by an EDA tool.
64. (withdrawn) A machine readable medium containing executable computer program instructions which when executed by a digital processing system cause said system to perform a method of designing an integrated circuit (IC), the method comprising:

generating a representation of a shielding mesh having a first layer and a second layer, the first layer including a first conductor, the second layer including a second conductor; and
generating a representation of two vias, each of the two vias connecting from the first conductor to the second conductor.

65. (withdrawn) The medium of claim 64, wherein the first conductor and the second conductor are not parallel.
66. (withdrawn) The medium of claim 64, wherein the first conductor and the second conductor are in close proximity.
67. (withdrawn) A data processing system for designing an integrated circuit (IC), the system comprising:
means for generating a representation of a shielding mesh having a first layer and a second layer, the first layer including a first conductor, the second layer including a second conductor; and
means for generating a representation of two vias, each of the two vias connecting from the first conductor to the second conductor.
68. (withdrawn) The system of claim 67, wherein the first conductor and the second conductor are not parallel.
69. (withdrawn) The system of claim 68, wherein the first conductor and the second conductor are in close proximity.